

FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL," UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

VERITY DOWDELL ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 10/593,665

FILED: September 19, 2006

FOR: PROCESS FOR PREPARING BENZODIAZEPINES

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of March 16, 2007 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on May 16, 2007. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$1020 for payment of the extension fee. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 104
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

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Date: 8-2-2007